

Subj: **Catching up.....**
Date: 5/28/2008 11:14:25 A.M. Central Daylight Time
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
To: ericnumis@aol.com
CC: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Eric,

We last traded e-mail about 2 months ago and that led me to have a couple of questions re: Perkin's Plates. I thought it would be easier to converse by telephone sometime if that is ok with you.

In the meantime I have an attachment or two for you to look at. I was able to purchase this recently and it turns out to be the oldest obsolete state bank issue now in my collection. I notice that you mention this date of emission but to date do not have an image of one. I thought this would interest you.

If you can find time, sometime, for my call I would appreciate it. I know you must be busy and if you can't I'll understand.

Regards,

John

860 429 6970

Subj: **Additional Congreve information.**
Date: 8/6/2008 10:24:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

I have been looking at these notes with Congreve backs and noticed something I hadn't noticed before. I have included a scan of eight Congreve backs so you can see for yourself. You should be able to enlarge each note by using the roller on the mouse and then use the blue horizontal and vertical scroll bars to adjust your view.

On note #1 at the bottom of the pile there is no imprint showing. You also mentioned that some of the examples in your frame had no imprint.

Notes #2 and #3 have the imprint right on the brown border just below the position we are used to seeing it at. One of these examples show it a little more clearly.

Notes #4, #5 and #6 show it where we have noticed it before.

Notes #7 and #8 show both the imprint and wording for the registration in the District Court in Massachusetts.

Regarding note #1; The whole printing of the Congreve back is not visible so it is possible (probable) that the imprint would have been there if we could see the brown colored border. I think this style reverse was the first example of Bowen's imprint on the Congreve back. When he noticed his imprint sometimes went missing, (probably due to the practice of New England bankers to trim their notes closely) he moved it up a little higher as shown on notes #4, #5 & #6. This is now Bowen's second imprint position. Then on notes #7 and #8 the whole registration and imprint appear across the whole bottom on the notes. This was the third and last variation of his imprint that I know of.

It is possible that your Congreve specimens all have an imprint, you just can't see them because they may be on the border and under the matting of your frame. It is also possible that your frame may be made up of real notes, not just the back printings. Wouldn't that be nice?

After searching through Haxby's New England states I could only find seven or eight banks that used the Congreve backs. (I have examples from five of those banks). This is hardly enough work for Bowen to get rich on. In most instances those banks printed the same notes both with and without the Congreve backs. I find that strange. Actually this whole study leaves me with more questions than answers.

I hope all has been well with you. We have had 10 inches above normal rainfall this year so the lawn has been keeping me busy all summer.

I shouldn't complain, last year the drought caused the lawn to burn out and turn to dirt.

I will take a minute or two for the attachment to download. It is a large picture file.

Best regards,

John



8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

Subj: **Re: Additional Congreve information.**
 Date: 8/8/2008 8:39:05 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
 To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

It sounds like you have the perfect spot at the Vineyard. The Island is such a pretty and serene place! And, the wildlife is always nice to watch. In many towns in Connecticut the authorities discourage bird feeders because they also attract coyotes and bears. There are coyotes and foxes on the Vineyard but I don't think there are any bears.

Sue and I would like to take you up on your invitation to stop in for a visit sometime, perhaps an afternoon? When would be a good time for you?

With a couple of days notice we can pretty much get away most any time.

Regards,

John

--- On Thu, 8/7/08, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

> From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>
 > Subject: Re: Additional Congreve information.
 > To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
 > Date: Thursday, August 7, 2008, 12:09 PM
 > Dear Johnny:
 > I am fascinated by your new observations as to the
 > Congreve matter. I cannot
 > comment because I am in Martha's Vineyard (Chilmark
 > area) at a little shed
 > my wife and I acquired overlooking the ocean and the
 > Menemsha Pond for 360
 > degrees. We have a bird feeder in front and golden
 > finches, red headed
 > finches, and loads of other wonderful birds come to visit.
 > We have an osprey nest in
 > the neighborhood. I think I might have mentioned this to
 > you previously but I
 > think we might stay here until about Labor Day. If you are
 > near enough to come
 > to visit we would be delighted. Our telephone number is
 > 508 955 9034 but
 > Email is fine.
 > I was highly involved a few days ago in a conference at
 > the ANA Convention
 > in Baltimore (did not go) on the forgery of the 1853 \$20
 > United States Office
 > of Gold coins after being involved in that matter 40 years
 > ago. Now they
 > agree with me.
 > My best to you. Eric
 >

Saturday, August 09, 2008 AOL: EricNumis

Subj: **Re: Visit to the Vineyard**
Date: 8/9/2008 6:06:51 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dera Eric,

This sounds good. I think we can work it out one way or another.

We thought we would plan on booking a room or Bed & Breakfast in Chilmark or Menemsha for 2 nights whenever that may be, preferably during the mid-week. There is the ferry schedule, etc. to contend with so we would likely come in the day before we actually visit. When I speak with you on the phone we can pick a day to aim for. Our home phone # is 860-429-6970. You gave me your phone number in the last e-mail so I will call you tonight shortly after the dinner hour, say 7-8 PM.

This is exciting! It will be nice to meet you folks.

Regards,

John & Sue

--- On Sat, 8/9/08, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

> From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>
> Subject: Visit to the Vineyard
> To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
> Date: Saturday, August 9, 2008, 4:23 PM
> Dear Johnny:
> My wife and I are so glad you will visit us. While you said
> you would come
> for the afternoon we are wondering if you could come to
> lunch or an early
> supper or both. We have at Menemsha near our shack in
> Chilmark a marvelous dinner
> menu which begins at 5:30 PM at a restaurant called
> Homeport.
> I will telephone you to work out a convenient day but I do
> not have your
> telephone number here as it is in St. Louis. Please Email
> me your telephone
> number so I can contact you and discuss the best day to
> arrange the matter.
> It is time we met. Eric
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>
> *****Looking for a car that's sporty, fun and
> fits in your budget?
> Read reviews on AOL Autos.
> (<http://autos.aol.com/cars-BMW-128-2008/expert-review?ncid=aolaut00050000000017>
>)

Subj: **directions to Quitsa Lane**
Date: 8/12/2008 12:26:35 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: [EricNumis](#)
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
CC: [EricNumis](#)

Hi Johnny,

Glad you are coming. Understand u are coming by ferry which lands at Vineyard Haven or Oak Bluffs. From either place u go up island towards Gayhead/ Aquinnah.

Take the road that leads through Tisbury **to Chilmark** from Vineyard Haven until you reach **Beetlebung Corner. Stick to the South Road. Do not take the road to Memensha at a later fork in the road.**

Turn towards Aquinnah, this is a bearing left at Beetlebung Corner if you are on the South Road, as u should be.

Go for approx 1mile over the bridge at Quitsa Pond and wind up the hill til u get to mailbox 50 which is opposite a **white barnyard gate with the sign Quitsa Lane.**

Left on Quitsa Lane and the Newmans are at 4 Quitsa Lane, first driveway on your left.

If you get to Squibbnocket Road u have gone too far.

If u come in at Oak Bluffs, there are shorter and longer ways to get here, but I think I will stick to the long way, through Vineyard Haven and then turn towards Tisbury and Chilmark and follow the above directions.

My telephone is 508-645-9812 if u need to call me and get lost. Cell phones don't really work well up here.

We are in the boondocks.

The key landmarks on South Road are: go by Alleys General Store on your right.

Go to Beetlebung Corner

Turn left to Aquinnah.

Do not go into Memensha. It is not far from here but u will have to turn back to Beetlebung Corner to come to the turn to Aquinnah and then find Quitsa Lane.

Good luck. See u I hope on Wed. Best, Linda (Eric's daughter)

Looking for a car that's sporty, fun and fits in your budget? [Read reviews on AOL Autos.](#)

Subj: (no subject)
Date: 8/19/2008 9:02:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric and Evelyn,

Sue and I would like to thank you for your gracious hospitality last week. We really enjoyed our visit to the Island and especially Quitsa Lane. Your "shed" as Eric calls it must have the finest view in New England! The trip back took 4 hours but that included a stop for lunch and the ferry trip. It really isn't that far to the Islands.

Eric, I have made a duplicate of the monograph, "Perkins, Bacon the Company and its Work" showing the various British stamps and plate engravings. Would you like it mailed to the Vineyard or St. Louis address? We also saved a brochure and rate schedule for the Captain Flanders House that Evelyn or Linda inquired about. I can include that also.

The Bostonian Society is still in business and the their phone number at 206 Washington St. in Boston 02109 is 617-720-1713.

Best regards,
John & Sue

Subj: **Re: (no subject)**
 Date: 8/20/2008 12:50:22 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
 To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

While I have heard of Bob McCabe I don't believe I have ever met him. I was not aware of his new book on this subject. Perhaps it will unwrap more information on the Congreve and Perkins printing processes. I wouldn't be surprised if Dave Bowers is also planning something on the subject. Just before you and I started corresponding about Congreve, etc. he was asking questions and looking at a couple of notes in my collection with great interest. At that time I don't think he knew about Bowen's claim at the bottom of his plate to have registered his work in the District Court. I didn't know about it back then either. Subsequently in an e-mail I mentioned it to him.

I am currently putting together a powerpoint presentation mimicing my article in PM Magazine # 157 Jan/Feb 1992 and having to do with the naval action between USS Constitution and the English ships Guerriere and Macedonian. These vignettes appear only on one bank's notes and are the oldest of all American historical vignettes on our obsolete paper money. The notes would have been printed in 1813-1814. Here I came across an engraving of Constitution made by Bowen. It is a nice engraving. He must have been multi-talented yet less appreciated by history as it is so hard to find in-depth information on him. I have attached a scan of his engraving to this letter.

It would be nice to find time to continue our discussions. Maybe in the fall or winter Sue and I could take a 3-4 day vacation and meet up with you and Evelyn in St. Louis. It will probably be hard to say goodbye to summer and those feathered friends.

Regards,
 John

— On Tue, 8/19/08, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

> From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>
 > Subject: Re: (no subject)
 > To: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
 > Date: Tuesday, August 19, 2008, 7:49 PM
 > Dear Sue and Johnny:
 > Not only were we delighted with your visit but we want you
 > to do it over
 > again. We have not finished solving the myriad of matters
 > which entered into our
 > discussions. We are picking more puff ball mushrooms for
 > our next meal while
 > you are soon off for North Carolina to baby sit.
 > Bob McCabe whom you probably know just Emailed me that he
 > has a book he just
 > said is now in China for printing and its subject is on
 > the history of
 > American bank note engraving with emphasis on the
 > machinery. He must have asked
 > you for help as he said he has been working on it for 20
 > years. I knew nothing
 > about it previously.
 > Mail, all the goodies you have for us to St. Louis.
 > We thank you for coming as it was a memorable visit.
 > Evelyn and Eric
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 >

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 >
 > In a message dated 8/19/2008 9:02:33 A.M. Eastern Daylight
 > Time,
 > johnnybanknote@yahoo.com writes:
 >
 > Dear Eric and Evelyn,
 >
 > Sue and I would like to thank you for your gracious
 > hospitality last week.
 > We really enjoyed our visit to the Island and especially
 > Quitsa Lane. Your
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 > view in New England! The trip
 > back took 4 hours but that included a stop for lunch and
 > the ferry trip. It
 > really isn't that far to the Islands.
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 > Eric, I have made a duplicate of the monograph,
 > "Perkins, Bacon the Company
 > and its Work" showing the various British stamps and
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 > you like it mailed to the Vineyard or St. Louis address?
 > We also saved a brochure and rate schedule for the Captain
 > Flanders House
 > that Evelyn or Linda inquired about. I can include that
 > also.
 >
 > The Bostonian Society is still in business and their
 > phone number at 206
 > Washington St. in Boston 02109 is 617-720-1713.
 >
 > Best regards,
 > John & Sue
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 >
 > *****It's only a deal if it's where you
 > want to go. Find your travel
 > deal here.
 > (<http://information.travel.aol.com/deals?ncid=aoltrv000500000000047>)

08-20-2008

Dear Eric,

Enclosed are papers we spoke about via e-mail a couple of weeks ago. I have put copies of Mr. Bowen's image in the package also along with two copies on photographic paper of the 8 Congreve Check Plates. The Bostonian Society might be the place to contact for more information on him. Our club meetings in Boston will be starting soon. I will be going to Boston once a month then. Maybe I will go a little earlier on those days and stop in at the Society to inquire about information on his work.

John



①

↓ SAME PLATE DRS'N ↑





W. Kent





PLATE 47

(4)

Close Window



Close Window

1833

(5)

3⁰⁰ - NAHANT BANK G-12
5/1/33
IMPRINT ON RIGHT
NO PLATE ± VISIBLE

Close Window



Close Window

300 NAHANT BANK

6/11/35

FILING STATEMENT
+ IMPRINT

THE WORD "BANK"
ACROSS.

1835

6/11/35

(6)

Close Window



Close Window

NAIHANT BANK, 100

6/11/35

FILING STATEMENT
& IMPRINT (ASSUMED)

- CAN VAGUELY BE SEEN -

THE WORD 'CHECK' ACROSS.

6/11/35

(1)

Close Window



Close Window

NAHANT BANK 100

6/11/35

FILING STATEMENT
+ IMPRINT

THE WORD 'BANK' ACROSS,
(PLATE #4?)

1835

6/11/35

(8)

Close Window



Close Window

1835

6/11/35

PLATE #6

(9)

NANTUCKET BANK, 2nd

6/11/35

STATEMENT WRITTEN OVER

IMPRINT OK

PLATE #6 STATEMENT IS "ENGRAVED OVER"



LOT: 2228

Subj: **White lines and letters**
Date: 9/14/2008 4:26:10 PM Central Daylight Time
From: EricNumis
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear Johnny:

When we arrived home 10 days ago we only took four days to read our mail and throw most of it out. That did not blot out the lovely time we spent with you in the Vineyard. Your thought of the four of us getting together in St. Louis at any time was icing on the cake, so please take it seriously.

I want to thank you for sending me all of the exciting bank note production material which I have already read and thought about. I am now obliged to write on another numismatic subject to comply with a promise which I was unable to keep in a timely manner. However I want to keep you busy answering the questions which arose from what you sent me.

In the 2007 London Philatelic Exhibit article there was a comment on "White Line Engraving" which cleared up many things I had never even dreamt of but which left me with more questions as to the beautiful items in your collection which you showed me and sent images of. I can understand that one can shave a line or strip off a cylindrical transfer roller before it is hardened and thus create an unprinted area on the subsequent flat plate and causing a white area when printing the bank note. But how do you arrange for distinct white letters (such as CHECK and PLATE) on top of a very complicated design which sometimes shows traces of the design in the white areas. Were the white letters punched into the transfer roller only to the depth of the flat area after the engraved design was pressed into the roller resulting in the design being raised on the roller surface? Bowen seemed to be an expert in this. Could the white letters be punched into a flat plate and transferred to a separate roller and then the two rollers pressed together eliminating the raised design where the white areas were to be and thus not disturb the unengraved flat areas where the white was supposed to result. Think of all the postage stamps which were made much later and which had very small white letters on colored panels and designs. The letters are so perfect that they could not have their surroundings engraved into a plate. I must be missing some major action when I say these things. Can you clear my mind?

My very best to both of you. Eric

Psssst...Have you heard the news? [There's a new fashion blog, plus the latest fall trends and hair styles at StyleList.com.](http://StyleList.com)

Subj: **Re: White lines and letters**
 Date: 10/3/2008 7:42:39 AM Central Daylight Time
 From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
 To: EricNumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

Seemingly, in a flash fall is upon us. A week ago the air conditioner was roaring along happy to be dumping its load of cool on top of us. Now the furnace is cranking out BTUs so our feet won't stick to the cold floor in the morning. By noon though the temperature stabilizes at about 68 degrees which is just right for us to continue to make repairs to the siding on the house. There is always something to do either inside or outside. Life is never dull around here.

In reviewing the artical "Philatelic, etc", I see the reference to the white line engraving but am having some difficulty understanding the hands-on method it is speaking of. I am still hoping to find an engraver I can visit sometime to actually see how he/she works. I hope to add some practical observation to the theoretical information on this subject so I can better understand the whole method of engraving and printing.

Presently I have no answer to your question regarding the large white letters in CHECK and PLATE. Hopefully by the time we meet again I will understand the methods enough to offer an explanation.

Attached to this letter are images of two or three Branston and Whiting engravings done in the Congreve manner and an image of a Boston Merchant's scrip piece done in a Congreve-like manner. I have never before seen a scrip piece so closely resembling the Congreve method. I thought you might like these for your file.

I will be in touch again in a month or so, hopefully with pertinent information.

Our best to Evelyn.

John

--- On Sun, 9/14/08, EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com> wrote:

> From: EricNumis@aol.com <EricNumis@aol.com>
 > Subject: White lines and letters
 > To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
 > Date: Sunday, September 14, 2008, 5:26 PM
 > Dear Johnny:
 > When we arrived home 10 days ago we only took four days to
 > read our mail and
 > throw most of it out.
 > That did not blot out the lovely time we spent with you in
 > the Vineyard. Your
 > thought of the four of us getting together in St. Louis at

- > any time was icing
- > on the cake, so please take it seriously.
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- > I want to thank you for sending me all of the exciting bank
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- > material which I have already read and thought about. I am
- > now obliged to write
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- > which I was unable to
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- > questions which arose from what you sent me.
- >
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- > separate roller and
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- > have their surroundings
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- > when I say these

> things. Can you clear my mind?

> My very best to both of you. Eric

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> *****Psssst...Have you heard the news? There's

> a new fashion blog,

> plus the latest fall trends and hair styles at

> StyleList.com.

> (<http://www.stylelist.com/trends?ncid=aolsty00050000000014>)

Thank you for the unusual English and
American prints with complex multi colors. ~~at~~
they show overprinting as well as white space.
I think I now have a clue as to how some
of this was done and hope you will clarify my
thinking.

It is possible that some of the print is type style
printing and not engraving. The transfer roller
has the design high off the surface and this
can have inked rolled on for ~~direct~~ printing.
While engraving on a flat plate can have depth to
produce subtle ~~art~~ ^{with engraving} the engraving for a type style
printing can be cut ^{on the} ~~plate~~ ^{plate} ~~without~~
~~that faster~~

^{drawings}
The machinery which you located seem to have
ink ~~to~~ ^{drawings} rolled on and this can be in
register with engraved design printing rollers.
Only engraving style printing needs plate wiping
and printing from raised type does not.

The letters ~~could~~ ^{could} ~~have~~ ^{be} printed into the
design either on the flat engraved plate or
onto the roller. The depth of the printing on the
roller makes no difference if the rolled
is used for type style printing.

the local businesses eager to take part. The thinking is that locals will spend their Lewes pounds. The shopkeepers will then use the currency to buy supplies and so the money will circulate, keeping the wealth within Lewes. Plans for this curious idea are quite advanced.

The organizing committee meets to mull over the design of the new pound note, which will be worth 1 British pound.

She and her fellow residents dream of a world in which local communities do a lot more things locally. The Lewes pound, designed and produced by local volunteers, could be the first step.

To read the complete story, see: [Don't leave home with it](#)

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ARIZONA QUARTER LAUNCHED IN STATE CAPITOL CEREMONY

This week it was Arizona's turn to launch its state quarter. The launch events are as interesting and varied as the states themselves, although Arizona's sounds less colorful than others. I've never made it to any of these parties, but they do sound fun. Have any of our readers been to any of this year's U.S. Mint launch events? - Editor

Twenty-five cents made a big impact Monday, June 2, when Governor Janet Napolitano and United States Mint Director Edmund Moy launched the first Arizona quarters into circulation.

The official Arizona quarter launch took place outside the Arizona State Capitol, at an event complete with local celebrities. Mariachi Aguila from Phoenix entertained the crowd, and the ceremony was emceed by Beth and Bill of 99.9 KEZ.

Wells Fargo, the bank sponsor for the unveiling, made available a free, uncirculated Arizona quarter to each child under 18. Adults could exchange their bills for uncirculated quarters in \$10 rolls, commemorative folios for \$10 and limited edition folios for \$20. Event participants were treated to free mint ice cream drumsticks in honor of the U.S. Mint, and could explore the Capitol Museum, which featured two new exhibits documenting the quarter from conception to circulation.

To read the complete article, see: [Arizona quarter unveiled](#)



Monday's official release at the Capitol mark the end of a process that began three years ago when Gov. Janet Napolitano selected coin collectors, state officials, educators and even some elementary school students to figure out what the Arizona coin should look like.

That panel reviewed more than 4,200 design

Thanks you for the ~~under~~ ^{reused} English and American
prints ^{with} ~~of~~ complex multicolors. They show both
originality ~~as~~ as well as white space ^{have}
I think I have a clue as to how this might be
accomplished.

As we know a ~~single part~~ ^a flat engraved
design is transferred to a roller. Several such
designs can be so transferred ^{to different rollers} ~~the~~ designs ~~are~~
~~raised~~ when ~~they are~~ ^{on} a roller. Several
selected designs in various positions can be
rolled back onto a new flat plate. From which
engraved prints can be made in one color.
It has occurred to me that a second color with
an additional design can afterwards be applied
on a second area on each print by PRINTING
(not engraving) from the raised portion of the roller
with the additional design. ~~that seems easier~~
~~to register~~ ~~the~~ ~~two separate~~ ~~plates~~
~~engraved plates can be placed back to back~~
~~for printing from this could be done after~~
~~the introduction of the engraved portion.~~

~~Now~~ ^{I do} realize that two flat engraved
plates might do the same ^{with proper registration} ~~But~~
~~flat plate that~~ ^{if the design were both in ink and color.}

As to white space or letters that
might be accomplished by printing the letters
into the roller ~~have~~ ^{have} so that the printing
from the ^{high parts of the} roller would leave a white space
the white area where the punched portion resulted ^{and have} no
ink contact, when printing occurred.

I am glad ~~while you~~ ^{that you} struggles you have the
right kind of struggles to be worked with.

suggestions from across the state before coming up with five finalists. These were sent to the U.S. Mint which produced the actual drawings.

Napolitano, who got the final word, decided to conduct a nonscientific online poll, eventually choosing the one that gained the most votes: A picture of the Grand Canyon and a saguaro cactus, with the motto of "Grand Canyon State" in between. That placement was not accidental but instead designed to show that the signature cactus can be found nowhere near the canyon.

To read the complete article, see: [Arizona quarter goes into circulation](#)

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MORE ON THE NUMISMATICS OF THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY

Jeff Starck provided the following update on the numismatics of the Lincoln Highway. -Editor

A while back I shared some information I read in *The Lincoln Highway*, by Michael Wallis and Michael S. Williamson, and after a few delays and sidetracks, have finished the book. In reading the second half, there were several more numismatic mentions.

On page 187, the authors recount a tale of an alleged, locally famous robbery that happened near Big Spring, Nebraska. "On a moonlight night, Sam Bass, a lawman-turned-brigand, and five companions swept down on the eastbound train stopped to pick up mail. The outlaws made off with \$60,000 in shiny \$20 gold coins newly minted in San Francisco... A monument in Big Springs recounts the story of the robbery." The coins are reportedly buried nearby, but none are known to have been discovered, according to the authors. A historical marker in Brule, near Big Springs, notes that the Lincoln Highway was built on a route traveled by many gold seekers and others in wagon trains heading west from 1841 to 1860.

On page 210, the authors report of damage to a monument to U.S. Congressman Oakes Ames and his brother Oliver, the third president of Union Pacific. Architect Henry Hobson Richardson created the 60-foot-high pyramid standing in "the middle of nowhere." It can be found near the summit of Sherman Hill, west of Tree Rock, Wyoming. Bas-relief medallions by Augustus Saint-Gaudens "caught the eye of sagebrush marksman, who have shot away both men's noses."

Middlegate, Nevada is the site of a most interesting "bank," as reported on page 260. The ceiling of Old Middlegate Station, a gas station/bar/grocery/campground is littered with several thousand pieces of paper money from all over the world. The "bank" dates to old mining days when the bar tender was a bank. After writing the owner's name on the money, the bartender would pin it to the ceiling for safekeeping. When they needed some, the bartender would retrieve it. The authors report that money from China, Switzerland, Russia, and Japan, and many other foreign nations, is stored on the ceiling. A special section is reserved for U.S. Navy

Subj: (no subject)
Date: 11/17/2010 2:07:57 P.M. Central Standard Time
From: EricNumis@aol.com
To: Johnnybanknote@yahoo.com

Dear John

I was looking for something else and a photocopy of a bank note size item was in the pile..It was an unsigned and undated Salem Bank multi-denominational note from Newburyport. The denominations were ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, THIRTY DOLLARS (also figure 30), and figure 7. The memo with the item said it was on display in my museum. I asked my curator to look at the original and he said it was not there. He had looked in my counterfeit paper money display case and my paper money development display case. I worried all night and by the next morning I realized in due course that it was prepared by Jacob Perkins to demonstrate his siderography invention and must be quite rare. Then I realized that when I put it into a display case in the museum I knew nothing about siderography and wondered what I thought it was then. I concluded that I had thought it was an error. So I looked in my error display and there it was.

I determined that you would know all about such items and determined to ask you what unusual American Jacob Perkins American items you had. I knew you must have most of the bank notes he prepared, but I wondered what odd ball items you had of his. I think they must be of great importance and wondered if they have ever been written up.

I have recovered about 95% from breaking my vertebra in my fall in March but as you may know it was the worst ordeal I have ever had. Do not fall or let your wife fall. I use a roller steadily npw and do not rely on a cane as I used to. I hope my age has not crushed my ability to do numismatic research and writing but time will tell. I presume you received my latest off print

My best to you and yours.

Eric

Subj: **Perkins note**
Date: 11/24/2010 9:14:08 P.M. Central Standard Time
From: johnnybanknote@yahoo.com
To: ericnumis@aol.com

Dear Eric,

I have received your photocopy of the early Perkins note and I am sure you can see how similar it is to the scan of the sheet I attached to a previous e-mail to you. I have never seen this particular note before and wonder if it is of the same genre as my sheet.

My sheet is a reprint from what I assume is an original plate and is on slightly off white (very slightly yellow) paper somewhat thicker than one would expect. It was not printed on the usual soft India paper as I would expect a proof to be printed on. The sheet has one or two words in pencil noted on it.

The Historical Society in Newburyport has a similar sheet and seems to know that it is a reprint. I guess someone must have the plate. They say, they don't! Perhaps the plate for your note also exists. There are still a handful of Perkins descendants in the Newburyport area so perhaps that is where they lay.

I guess you could surmise that your note is a test note of some sort. Jim Haxby, during a conversation with me last May thought it was possible that James Aiken may have engraved this plate. Aiken worked in Newburyport during this time. Jim dated it in the mid 1810's

That is about all I know or can speculate about the note. It certainly is interesting.

Regards,

John